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## Local Voices



Libi Uremovic

## Records Request To The City of Beaumont: This Is An Internal Audit - Open Your Books

Posted on November 29, 2012 at 10:45 am

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November 29, 2012

City of Beaumont

RE: Request for Public Records

Dear Sirs;

I am requesting from the City of Beaumont the following records:

All Bank Statements and accompanying Check Registers for every Bank, Investment, Financial, or any other Institution holding tax payer monies for the dates 07/01/2010 through 06/30/2012.

All Check Registers will have accounting codes showing exactly to which departments each transaction is coded.

This is an internal audit. Every penny of tax payer money is accountable.

Your prompt action on this request is appreciated.

Thank You,

Libi Uremovic

libionline.net

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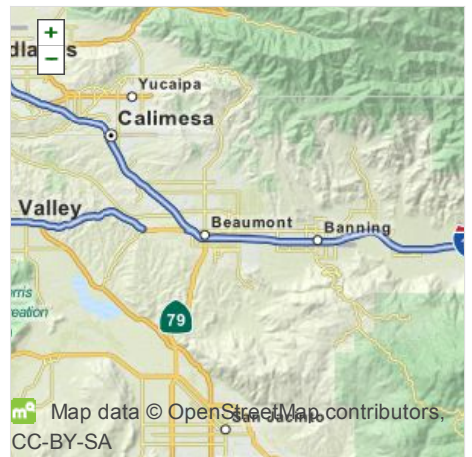
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[It's Over, Beaumont City Consultants Lose, BCRG Wins The Website Stays Up!](#)

haden ward

11:25 am on Thursday, November 29, 2012

Good for you. Maybe someone will do the same for Banning.....

Flag as inappropriate

Reply



Libi Uremovic

Flag as inappropriate



12:41 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

i plan to do the same for every city in cali....we pay a lot of taxes to provide good services and a decent living for our line workers, but the money is being pillaged at the top...

you can read about the city of imperial beach audit here: <http://libionline.net>

it's not that our taxes are too low or our services are too grand... it's corruption...

**Jacqueline**

Flag as inappropriate

11:18 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

According to this audit, Beaumont gave out \$50,000 to someone for a warehouse project, and that note is overdue since 2010. Then someone, who folks here claim is a councilman, got his city loan suspended, and while others do without this holiday, he's going for the record of who has the highest electric bill this Christmas. So Beaumont can't point fingers at the things Banning did, not when they are getting pretty good at doing it themselves. At least Banning voters woke up.



**Ken**

Flag as inappropriate

11:40 am on Saturday, December 8, 2012

Hi Libi! Enjoy!

Beaumont City Warrants 2011-12

07/ 15/ 2011 DINERS CLUB \$ 6, 032. 98 CREDIT CARD

08/ 08/2011 DINERS CLUB \$ 5, 001. 50 CREDIT CARD

08/ 26/2011 DINERS CLUB \$ 2,980.87 SUPPLIES

09/ 30/ 2011 DINERS CLUB \$ 6,516. 36 CREDIT CARD

10/28/2011 DINERS CLUB \$ 10, 509. 99 SERVICES

12/ 09/2011 DINERS CLUB \$ 7, 477.27 CREDIT CARDS

02/24/2012 DINERS CLUB \$ 2,732.08 CREDIT CARD

04/ 05/2012 DINERS CLUB \$ 8, 349.57 SERVICE

05/ 04/ 2012 DINERS CLUB \$ 21, 698.00 SERVICE

05/ 25/2012 DINERS CLUB \$ 7, 958. 81 SERVICE

Thats right around \$80,000!! Love to see where and what and who all these fine meals/services/supplies went to/for. Just how many Diners Club cards are floating around at City Hall??

I could be in error and there is a perfectly logical explanation, it just seems a bit excessive in light of the hardships so many in our area have struggled through.

<http://www.ci.beaumont.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/16424>



**Charles Ferrell**

Flag as inappropriate

11:31 am on Thursday, November 29, 2012

This is all part of any city's public record. Go down to city hall and and, by law, they have to show all those records.

Reply

**Debbie C.**

Flag as inappropriate

4:24 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

If you have been following these things, Mr. Ferrell, you would know the City does not show their records that easily. I don't like it when my government loses requests, misplaces requests, or says it doesn't have information that they should. I hope it bothers you, too.



**Ken**

Flag as inappropriate

4:31 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

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Wow its a light bulb moment!!!!!!! Some of us have been saying this for a long long time!

[http://banning-beaumont.patch.com/blog\\_posts/beamont-observations](http://banning-beaumont.patch.com/blog_posts/beamont-observations)



**Ken**

Flag as inappropriate

4:32 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

hmmmm....even tho this audits is merely a measure of the accounting principles applied and commonly accepted practices (anyone can put in the numbers as long as its an accepted method) this audit stipulates PAGE 1.....

"As discussed in Note 1 to the basic financial statements, the City has not recorded capital assets within its governmental activities, and accordingly, has not recorded depreciation expense on those assets.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that those capital assets

be capitalized and depreciated, which would increase the assets, net assets, and expenses of the

governmental activities. These amounts are not reasonably determinable.

As discussed in Note 1 of the notes to basic financial statements, effective July 1, 2010, the City adopted

the provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54 – Fund Balance

Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions and GASB Statement No. 59 – Financial Instrument"

Ive read the previous audits....things are getting warm for things at City Hall.....

Oh and as a side note note whatever happened to our officer of the year that whose actions and statements in court ran contrary to coroners results and ballistics?

**Nancy Hall**

Flag as inappropriate

8:49 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

While that may be the law.don't expect Beaumont to follow it. they have denied records more than once.

**Judy Bingham**

Flag as inappropriate

11:54 am on Thursday, November 29, 2012

I made a public records request on November 13, 2012 for the check register with accompanying accounting codes for each check for the past two fiscal years. When I called today to ask if they were ready ,Shelby Hanvey, assistant to the City Manager said they cannot create records for me.

Well, how do they do their own accounting if they don't code each check with an account number ? Accounting is accounting after all.

This was due to me on Tuesday November 27,2012. I was refused this information again today, November 29, 2012.

Withholding public documents is not only an example of the City's intentional lack of transparency, but is a violation of the California Public Records Act (Government Code Sections 6250-6276.48).

Thanks for your help in getting the records I requested.

Judy Bingham

Beaumont Citizens for Responsible Growth

[www.beaumontgate.org](http://www.beaumontgate.org)

Reply

**Judy Bingham**

Flag as inappropriate

12:16 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

Taxpayers of Beaumont might also be interested in the information I did receive on Tuesday that I asked for on October 29,2012. It is now up on the City's web site. Please read the City of Beaumont's 2011 audit. Isn't it strange that the \$11 million dollar surplus that Alan Kapanicas and some of the council members were touting dissolved into a \$10.9 million dollar deficit ? How does that happen? Balancing the budget with CFD funds ? Pay special attention to Note 22. Here's the link :

<http://www.ci.beaumont.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/16409>

Reply

**Judy Bingham**[Flag as inappropriate](#)

3:25 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

Financial statement as of June 30,2011-- that was a year and a half ago

Page 61, Note 22 Financial Condition

The City's General Fund had a deficit unassigned fund balance of \$10,871,054 at June 30,2011. It is uncertain whether the \$22,380,000 advances to the Beaumont Redevelopment Agency will be collectible due to the dissolution of the Redevelopment Agency. The city's General fund continues to rely on overhead reimbursement and services payments from various CFD's within the City to balance it's budget. The city used a one time transfer of \$ 2 million from its Equipment Replacement Fund to help balance the budget. It is uncertain if the City will be able to: 1) balance its general fund budget if such revenues are no longer available, and 2) reduce the deficit without additional revenue sources or expenditure cuts.

**James Martinez**[Flag as inappropriate](#)

1:11 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

On page 36, it says a "debtor", who had gotten a loan from the City in 2000, has had this loan suspended. Suspended long enough for \$9810 in interest to accumulate. Wasn't this brought up in last year's audit also, that this suspended loan was to Councilman Castaldo? He gets elected, and his loan is suspended? What? What cleanup of anything takes two whole years? No one in their right mind allows almost \$10,000 in additional interest to accumulate on a loan unless (a) they are broke, or (b) they have no intention of paying back the money. Can we get some answers here????????

[Reply](#)**not happy**[Flag as inappropriate](#)

2:46 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

I would like to know, also. It sounds more like three years of non-payment at those interest rates. If someone can't afford to keep payments current on a loan they took out, it makes no sense to spend hundreds of dollars on a huge Christmas light display. Responsibilities come first, fun after.

**BMF2012**[Flag as inappropriate](#)

7:54 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

After Dave Castaldo quit paying on his house in a newer CFD development Fairway Canyon...who by chance or not was developed by Beaumont's very own special interest guru Mike Turner of SunCal..... went back to the bank in a FORECLOSURE sale..... what else do you expect from our city council. Build a big light display of course! Don't own up to your responsibilities. Just hide and tear out all your appliances at that. It is disgraceful that he took all the appliances in the house in Fairway Canyon. Why would he take the dishwasher and oven that came with the house? Maybe for his son's mobile home on his California Ave property? Or his River House he has in Bullhead City? PS-James..... you will get no answers from City council or Kapanicas. I guarantee it!

**Ben**[Flag as inappropriate](#)

2:02 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

Hey Libi, do you go to the cities and ask for this stuff, or is this online a voluntary deal? Never heard of anyone just handing things over like this. it does look like the general fund in totally negative, and if it is run on the cdf's then no wonder they aren't ever going to refinance them, that's less money. The commingling of funds is the strangest thing though, didn't think that was legal. The water district used to do that, and no one could figure out where anything was. interesting.

[Reply](#)**Libi Uremovic**[Flag as inappropriate](#)

2:42 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

they don't have any choice but to hand it over....all government money is a matter of public record ben.....anyone can go to any government agency in the country and examine the books.... and it's what has to be done to stop the corruption because

they obviously don't have the decency to stop themselves...

i was contacted by judy bingham .. i have written state-wide articles about cali's economic problems and have a website about the imperial beach audit....a major part of our state's economic problems are because the cities are wasting so much money.... if we can get control of the cities we can get control of the state...

**BMF2012**

Flag as inappropriate

7:56 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

Ben - I have thought for years that the CFD's - who Kapanicas is paid every year on in charges \$\$\$- was a front. Why else would every new development in Beaumont have one? Follow the money trail Ben. Crooks are everywhere in Beaumont.

**Judy Bingham**

Flag as inappropriate

3:11 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

Ben, the Water District's General Manager, Chuck Butcher resigned when the Grand Jury investigation found there was a misuse of public funds. He should have gone to jail. Misusing and misappropriation of public funds is very serious and these corrupt public servants seem to be intent on helping themselves to our public monies. But you know in spite of a huge deficit in the City coffers it is one big party after another, one \$11 million dollar bridge to nowhere, after another. I guess they are still trying to keep up appearances.

Reply

**Debbie C.**

Flag as inappropriate

4:20 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

A negative amount in an unassigned fund balance means that another fund that was assigned to a specific purpose has a deficit. Its an accounting trick. Rather than disclose you overspent your funds from an assigned fund, you "borrow" money from this wonderful little fund called unassigned, which then admits the deficit. What did Beaumont overspend on in the amount of 10 plus million? It sounds like the City's policy of building ahead of development has caught up to them. One cannot lay out funds without knowing for certain that more funds will come in, and the recession, and the lack of water, have made this building ahead premise nothing more than a gamble. It's not much different than Solyndra, putting money out there, and simply praying there will be a return. If we can't get our small local governments to be transparent, and not gamble with our taxpayer money just because they won once before, then we will never see it at the federal level. Libi is correct, we should start at the bottom, and go to the top.

Reply

**Judy Bingham**

Flag as inappropriate

5:30 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

Here is a sobering fact for the people of Beaumont:

On October 18, 2012, the City transferred \$1 million dollars to the Bank of Hemet to be used for its Payroll Account.

This left a balance of \$1,034,914.24 in its public funds checking account and \$43,184.42 in a money market savings account on October 31, 2012 in Citibank.

Reply



**Roger Berg**

Flag as inappropriate

6:14 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

Judy Thank you for letting the public know that the City of Beaumont opened up a new payroll account at the Bank of Hemet. This is just part of our program to give business to our local business when even we can.



**Washy**

Flag as inappropriate

4:35 am on Friday, November 30, 2012

Bull Roger! Almost all the services Beaumont uses is OUTSIDE community from the vac cleaner store they use in Upland to the contractor that makes min 30k a year off the city from the high desert

**a little justice**

Flag as inappropriate

10:12 pm on Thursday, December 6, 2012

Why is this such a "sobering" fact? The City of Beaumont is doing business with a local business!

**Judy Bingham**

Flag as inappropriate

6:31 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

As usual you missed the point. What happened to that \$11 million dollar surplus we have been hearing about for the last two years ?

Reply

**BMF2012**

Flag as inappropriate

8:00 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

Yes Roger- there is money missing..... Merry Christmas. DeFraud... I mean DeForge knew when to get out, didn't he? You're on the hook now. When will Kapanicas unexpectedly retire? Happy New Year.



**Washy**

Flag as inappropriate

4:40 am on Friday, November 30, 2012

Failed to mention that the contractor that makes money for doing not much of anything in this city is best buds with deforge



**Ken**

Flag as inappropriate

5:50 pm on Saturday, December 1, 2012

CITY OF BEAUMONT

NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

June 30, 2011

37

Note 6 Notes and Loans Receivable (Continued)

The City authorizes employees to make advances on payroll checks. These advances are expected to

be paid back immediately at the next payroll run. The balance of employee advances totaled \$26,209 at

June 30, 2011.

WHAT A DEAL!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Bunch of BS



**Ken**

Flag as inappropriate

7:57 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012

And as Ive asked before Mr Berg...What are the chances of recovering the \$22 million loan to the now defunct RDA...that your brilliant City Attorney infers that the same brilliant financier ( your beloved City Manager) should oversee winding down RDA matters AND the Oversight board...AS CHIEF OF BOTH?? the chips will fall where they do. Ive no illusions of resignations/retirements and NO accountability from any of you. Show me the money!!

Reply

**Nancy Gall**

Flag as inappropriate

6:37 am on Friday, November 30, 2012

The conflict of interest .Mr. Akufi has was actually voted on by the council(4-1) with my vote in the negative. The city's attorney needs to go along with the city manager and the city financial officer.(We also need to look at his liscense and bond)

Reply

**Jack Smith**

Flag as inappropriate

2:03 pm on Friday, November 30, 2012

Nancy Gall: would you please drive around and collect your old city counsel campaign signs from the roadsides. Try across from Tournament Hills Elementary school and Tukwet Canyon Golf course.

[Reply](#)



**Ken**

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

3:59 pm on Friday, November 30, 2012

And it's Council not Counsel...Funny you should mention it, I saw Beaumont City workers with all sorts of Brenda for City Council in the back of City vehicles after the election...All political trash needs to be removed.



**Washy**

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

4:59 pm on Saturday, December 1, 2012

Yep Ken Brenda Knights first thing was have the yard sale code enforcement lady take them down on the weekend. On Monday she was so upset there were more the city workers were told to take them down.

**Emily Connor**

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

4:53 pm on Saturday, December 1, 2012

I simply do not understand why we allow our public officials to not have completely open records all the time. Even these audits are not very transparent, for the people they bring in just base the numbers on what city officials provide, and it sure seems like they don't ever ask for proof. Bell's audits were all fine, right up to the youknow hitting the fan. Beaumont constantly says it is run like a business, and pays very good money to hire outside professionals to manage it. To then say they can't find a record, or they don't use business procedures in their accounting processes is flat out lying. Plus, I am very disturbed if the city is gifting public funds to anyone, especially a council man. If it is who they say it is, he has already told many people that he tried to get the interest rate on that loan lowered, but it wasn't possible, yet now we learn the city just suspended the loan. I'm sorry, but I don't buy that; it sounds more to me like an inside arrangement to make the remaining balance disappear, that is, until it was noticed. Well, we all now notice that this loan isn't getting paid, and who it belongs to. This is why Beaumont's reputation is suffering. This is inexcusable.

[Reply](#)

**BMF2012**

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

6:54 pm on Monday, December 3, 2012

Yes Emily. Now you know how the City of Beaumont operates. I really wish someone from the State would audit this corrupt city! Crazy the issues that keep coming up. It screams The City of Bell!



**Libi Uremovic**

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

7:25 pm on Monday, December 3, 2012

the state is right behind me bmf2012... i'll be sending all of the audit information to the controller's office....the state controller's office is sending out auditing teams specifically for rda, payroll, and the gas tax/prop a.....

there is also local and federal prosecution...locally, it's the district attorney special operations and the grand jury....the state department's stance is that we must 'exhaust all means' locally before the state can step over the county and prosecute...

**Miri**

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

10:31 pm on Sunday, December 2, 2012

Mayor Berg, since you are following everything here, please, what is this about the city audit showing a deficit?

[Reply](#)

**Adam W**

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

6:57 pm on Monday, December 3, 2012

Libi-

Thanks for your request! I was wondering, since your request, have you heard from any city council, city staff or the city manager? Please let us know what our elected officials are doing for us.

Reply



**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

7:38 pm on Monday, December 3, 2012

the city is 'working on it'.....i've sent an example of what a check register with accounting codes looks like...

**Hopeful**

Flag as inappropriate

4:54 pm on Saturday, December 8, 2012

Hi Libi, How can we tell exactly what our tax dollars paid for on here? There is one specific item that I want to find out about on this audit. I can see what company the money was paid to, but I want to know where the services were provided.

Reply



**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

6:14 pm on Saturday, December 8, 2012

i've got the paperwork, so i'll start your audit tomorrow... the city printed out the general ledger for the past 2 years....it's printed in 4-point so there's about 100 entries on each past....5 3/4" thick...

the first 1 3/4" is coded to 'cash - 000-0000-000.....that's called a 'dump account' ...they code it so it never hits the budgets of any departments....you can read about the imperial beach dump account : <http://libionline.net/follow-the-money-blog.html>

judy has picked up the costs for the records request and shipping the materials to me... if anyone can help pay for the audit please contribute ...i'm running it as a business so it's fully deductible from your taxes....

Reply

**A different perspective**

Flag as inappropriate

7:00 pm on Saturday, December 8, 2012

Libi, Is Bingham paying you? Do you live in Beaumont? Do you know anything other than the misinformation posted on the site? I wasn't going to get on this Patch thing again, but I can't believe what I'm reading on you blog. I attended the city council meeting last week (I always make sure I don't sit anywhere near that Bingham person because she disrupts, talks to herself, and pushes her hate agenda on people). This is all public record, you just have to take the time to read the entire audit. The city has 17 million to the good in assets and cash. There has been NO hiding of public records. It's that the request was something like 1600 pages, so it takes time to put together. THE AUDITORS SAY THERE IS NOTHING WRONG. I'm going to put my faith in the outside professionals that did the audit, not the "Old Beaumont Crazy's"

Reply



**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

7:32 pm on Saturday, December 8, 2012

i live in imperial beach...i don't know judy and i don't know you....

but if you have something to say to me you can use your real name and picture...i've got no respect for people that slander others while hiding themselves....

and no, i'm not interested in your personal bs....

"...the auditors say there's nothing wrong..."

you are incorrect...the auditors' report for the last two (2) years clearly states: "material misstatements"...that's a big fat something wrong...

let me be very clear...this is an internal audit...it will turn up what it turns up....every segment of the audit will be advanced to the state controller's office, d.a. special operations, grand jury, and every elected official in your district...

every penny of government money must be accountable.....every penny allocated to a specific department...

**Brenda**

Flag as inappropriate



8:27 pm on Saturday, December 8, 2012

Gene Stockton, will you decide on a fake name already? The many ball-less faces of you are making my head spin.

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